

**PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES – APRIL 8, 2014**

The Perry County Board of Commissioners met at 6:00 p.m. as was duly advertised at Perry Central Jr/Sr High School. All commissioners (President Thomas Hauser, Bill Amos, and Randy Kleaving) were in attendance. Also present was County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, and a representative of the *Perry County News*.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CLAIMS & PAYROLL APPROVAL**

Bill made a motion to approve all claims and payroll dockets. Randy seconded the motion, and motion carried 3-0. The commissioners signed claims dockets in the amounts of \$266,390.06 for county claims and \$182,837.71 for highway claims, and advance payment claims of \$2,908.96, \$225,000.00, \$8,579.67 and \$4,477.84 for a grand total of \$690,194.24. The payroll docket was approved in the amount of \$122,220.01 for payroll distributed on March 24, 2014 and \$122,039.14 for payroll distributed on April 7, 2014.

**MINUTES**

The minutes from the meetings of March 3<sup>rd</sup> and March 18, 2014 had been sent to the commissioners for their review. Randy made the motion to approve the minutes as written, and Bill seconded the motion. The motion carried 3-0.

**ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

Connie Berger, County Auditor, presented the commissioners with an additional appropriation request in the amount of \$50,000.00 from the Economic Development Income Tax Fund for a Comprehensive Plan. Bill made the motion to approve the request and Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Elliot Englert with Indiana 15 Regional Planning Commission attended the meeting and discussed a Highway Safety Improvement Program with the commissioners. He stated that IN 15 is willing to assist Perry County with the plan application which is due by May 12, 2014. All signs in the county will have to be inventoried and the cost of replacement would have to be determined. He explained that the federal government has mandated that all road signs be updated for night time reflection. He stated that if the commissioners approved the agreement with IN 15 they would help the county highway department with the plan application, and the cost should not exceed \$3,000.00. He said that if the plan is approved the funding from the Federal Government would be available in July of 2017 until April of 2018. The county's match on the Federal funding will be 10%. Steve Howell with the highway department stated that the county does not have the equipment needed to do the testing of the signs and it has to be done by an approved person from INDOT. Steve stated that at this time the highway department has the \$3,000.00 in the highway budget within the line item for signs. Bill made the motion to approve the agreement and Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

**BICYCLE RIDE ROUTE**

Elliot Englert also explained that in September Ferdinand will be hosting the Ferdinand Folk Fest Fondo. Included in the activities is a Bicycle Ride that will include part of Perry County. He said no action was needed by the commissioners, but he just wanted to make them aware that the ride will be on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**EMERGENCY WEATHER SIREN**

Emergency Management Director, Steve Hauser, attended the meeting and explained that during a recent tornado siren test the weather siren located in Leopold failed to perform. He explained that a used siren was acquired and installed in 1963. Records indicate that the siren is over 65 years old. He felt it was not cost effective to repair the old siren. He received an estimate for a new siren and installation for a total price of \$26,705.62. He feels the cost may be reduced if local vendors and resources can be used for part of the installation.

Steve explained that he attended the Board of Director's meeting of the Central Perry Fire Department in March to discuss funding options. He stated that as a community effort, the Central Perry Board of Director's approved Central Perry Fire Department to pay up to half of the total cost of the siren replacement project, providing the County would fund the other half. He explained that within the Riverboat Revenue Sharing fund there is a line item for Weather Emergency Expenses with an appropriation of \$20,000.00. He felt that the county share on the siren would not exceed \$14,000.00. He stated that he was attending the meeting this evening to receive approval from the commissioners to proceed with the new siren. Randy thanked Central Perry Fire Department for their help on the purchase of the new siren. Randy made the motion to spend up \$14,000.00 from the Riverboat Revenue Sharing fund to purchase the weather siren and Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **CONTRACT – BITUMINOUS**

County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, explained that J. H. Rudolph & Co. had offered to extend the 2006 Bituminous Materials Contract for 2014. He explained that J. H. Rudolph has a plant in Perry County and this makes it very handy to receive or pick up bituminous when needed by the highway department. Bill made the motion to approve the contract and Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **ORDINANCE AMENDING EDIT PLAN**

County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, presented the commissioners with an amendment to the 3 year EDIT plan showing various roads for repair in 2014. Chris stated that due to the harsh winter repairs to various roads, changes to the plan may be made without amending the plan. Randy made the motion to approve the Ordinance and Bill seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0. (See Attachment "A" Ordinance 0-C-14-2)

#### **BOARD APPOINTMENT**

Parks and Recreation Board – County Administrator, Teresa Kanneberg, announced that 2 letters of interest had been received for the vacancy on the Parks and Recreation Board. Letters were received from Calvin Cash III and Michael Kleeman showing an interest in the opening. Randy made a motion to appoint Calvin Cash III to fill the opening with his term expiring on December 31, 2015. Bill seconded the motion and motion carried 3-0.

#### **WELLNESS COMMITTEE**

Tom explained that last year when the health insurance for county employees was renewed it was decided to form a wellness committee. Tom explained that the following 7 county employees have agreed to be on the committee: Commissioner President Tom Hauser; County Council President Stan Goffinet; County Auditor Connie Berger; County Assessor Mandy Lassaline; Judge Lucy Goffinet; Highway Operations Manager Steve Howell; Health Nurse Sarah Gehlhausen. Bill made a motion to approve all the above to be on the Wellness Committee and Randy seconded the motion. Motion carried 3-0.

#### **AMBULANCE SERVICE CONTRACT**

A contract with the Perry County Memorial Hospital for ambulance service had been signed by the commissioners at their meeting on March 18, 2014. County Attorney, Chris Goffinet, explained that when he prepared the contract he had put in that either party could get out of the contract with a 2 week notice. He stated that it should have stated that it would automatically be renewed each year unless either party provides termination notice to the other at least 90 days before the end of the year. The commissioners agreed that neither party could get out of the contract in two weeks. Bill suggested that the since we are halfway through this year he would like making the current contract expire at the end of 2015 instead of this year.

Randy stated that there has been a lot of miscommunication between the commissioners and the hospital. The primary goal when we started looking at everything was to put an ambulance at the north station. As he examined the idea over the last year several issues emerged, including the county not having coverage it should due to the volume of runs the emergency medical service makes. This led to Spencer County terminating the mutual-aid agreement it held with Perry County. The big thing that he



discovered was that 14 or 15 years ago a promise had been made to place an ambulance at the north station, and that is still the commissioner's primary goal for the future. Randy said the commissioners did research the county taking over the ambulance service. It was determined that it would be best to have the hospital continue providing the ambulance service, and work with the hospital to place a crew at the north station. Randy stated that the Perry County Hospital, Perry County Commissioners and County Council need to work together to find funding for another ambulance crew at the north station. The other item that Randy addressed was a letter that the commissioners received from the hospital stating that they needed assurances that the hospital will have the EMS contract for at least five (5) years with the ninety (90) day termination clause effective only at the end of that period and then year-to-year.

CEO Joe Stuber of the hospital explained that moving the EMS to the new hospital site will cut 8 to 10 minutes off the response times to the northern part of the county. At the time the hospital decided to build the new hospital and EMS building there had not been any talk about housing an ambulance and crew at the north station. Joe stated that the hospital is spending \$500,000 to put the EMS building by the hospital and that is the reason they are requesting a 5 year contract. Joe further stated that if the commissioners are not intending to move the EMS to the hospital then they would redesign the building for another purpose.

Randy stated that he was fine with moving the EMS to the hospital, but he was not comfortable with a five year contract, because a lot could happen in five years.

Commissioner Amos asked J.B. Land, chairman of the hospital-trustees, what will happen if the commissioners sign a 5 year contract and then things change and the county cannot do anything about it. J.B. explained that it's the board's responsibility to do the best for the hospital and it is the commissioners who appoint the board members. Commissioner Kleaving stated that the commissioners and hospital board may have lost trust in each other, and we need to get that trust back and work together. Randy stated he feels the year by year contract with the 90 day out is a fair contract. He stated that he has a real hard time with a 5 year contract.

County Council members Stan Goffinet and Ron Crawford both agreed that the hospital needs certainty on the contract and felt that the 5 years was the best for both parties.

After much discussion between the commissioners, hospital and audience members on the subject, Randy made a motion to change the wording to be a 90 day termination clause instead of the two week notice as was in the amendment that was signed at the March 18, 2014 Commissioners meeting and also to extend the contract to 2015. Bill seconded the motion, and motion carried 2-0 with Tom abstaining. Tom stated that he is employed by the hospital as a paramedic and don't want to do anything that might seem to be a conflict of interest.

There was more discussion on the proposed 5 year contract and it was decided to table that request until the next commissioners meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Teresa announced the next meeting of the Perry County Board of Commissioners is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. Tuesday, April 15, 2014, at the Cannelton Jr/Sr High School.

The meeting ended in open session at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes approved this 5th day of May 2014.

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Thomas J. Hauser  
President

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Bill Amos

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Randy Kleaving

*Minutes prepared by:  
Connie A. Berger, Perry County Auditor*